

2020 State of Clubs



Clubs:
*Building Community at
Goddard since 1960.*

July 1, 2019 — June 30, 2020
Mary Collins, GEWA Clubs





Preface

GEWA's 37 active clubs boasts 4,400* total members. Links to these are on the <https://gewa.gsfc.nasa.gov/clubs/index.html>. Five clubs marked a milestone anniversary in 2020 ranging from 60 to 20 years. This is a testament to the loyalty that these activities inspire. The need for GEWA and its clubs is every bit as necessary now as in the early days to give an athletic, intellectual, and creative outlet for our hardworking Goddard family. Once we can work together on Center safely again, we can resume developing enduring professional networks and relationships.

This year I was approached by employees inquiring about the possibility of forming new clubs. We met and discussed advantages and requirements. Once mandatory telework began, progress ceased in these efforts.

The first part of this reporting year was filled with many interesting activities. And in spite of the sudden cessation of activities due to the telework mandate, most clubs found ways to support each other and the Center. Many clubs shared the highlights of the 12 months covered by this report. Because of the uniqueness of this period, the highlights are grouped by those two time periods: "Summer 2019-Winter 2020" to "Spring 2020"

You can find State of Clubs reports from 2019 and 2018, which is the first edition and contains more background and history in order to document the early days of the GEWA Council and clubs and establish the "why of clubs" ...how they support Goddard personnel and our mission. Go to the [GEWA Clubs](#) page to see these.

The cover slide visually represents a sampling of our in-person events in which the comradery is evident. The lower right corner shows the stark change upon the mandatory telework order. In spite of the isolation, clubs carried on meeting and planning. In some cases, clubs provided virtual versions of classes and outreach to support members and guests.

*The increase in the reported total membership is due to a more accurate reporting by the Goddard Retirees Alumni Association, which counts all civil service retirees who are on their mailing list.



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2020 State of Clubs — At-a-Glance

Total Membership: 4,400 Members (increase from 2019)

Total Clubs: 37

Milestone Anniversaries —

60th – Flying

50th – MAD

40th – Garden

30th – Frisbee

20th – African Development and Tech

Grants Award to —

Volleyball - \$400 for padding around poles;

MAD - \$1,500 for a new microphone;

Stamp - \$700 to replace a display case;

Tae Kwon Do - \$1,000 for new floor mats;

Sailing - \$1,100 for a new bulkhead for a boat.

SCUBA (Sea Ventures) submitted a request for \$5,000 to run power to building for their air compressor. This request was rejected since the total amount available for Grants is \$5,000.

Categories —

- ❖ Sports (competitive) – 7
- ❖ Arts and Hobbies – 6
- ❖ Physical and Spiritual Fitness – 6
- ❖ Cultural – 2
- ❖ The Great Outdoors – 8
- ❖ The Great Indoors – 1
- ❖ “Other”
 - ❖ - Self-Defense – 2
 - ❖ - Education-Training – 5

Inactive — Sea Ventures (SCUBA)

Club News and Contributions

Summer 2019-Winter 2020



The **Association** of Postdoctoral Scholars — Hosted monthly brown bag lunches, happy hours and hiking excursions as well as other noteworthy activities.

- Climate survey results by an early-career GSFC scientist
- Meetups with early career engineers including a Spacecraft Integration and Testing Facility tour.

The Goddard **Astronomy** Club (GAC) — Participated in the 2019 Astronomy Festival on the National Mall that draws several thousand people. The GAC began a partnership with Astronomy Outreach program for Prince George's County Parks and Recreation Department, participating in two of their outreach events.

The **Dance** club offered events and classes in the Building 8 auditorium through February.

- Celebrated the 50th anniversary of Apollo 11 by hosting by hosting *“Fly Me to the Moon”* dance.
- Dance lessons
- Friday night Dances
- Special Dance Parties such as a Sock Hop, Hollywood theme, the holidays, Hawaii theme, and finally Valentines Day



Club News and Contributions

Summer 2019-Winter 2020



The new **DIY Craft Club** — Had a very good first year hosting 9 successful events.

- The inaugural event was a Vision Board party followed by 2 Paint Nights, workshops on making Mason Jar Tissue Holders, greeting cards, and holiday wreaths.
- The club stood up its website this year.
- Visit <https://www.gsfcdiy craftclub.com> to see photos of the fun!



Club News and Contributions

Summer 2019-Winter 2020



The **Islamic** Study Group offered Math/Physics/MATLAB tutoring to the local community high school and college students, regardless of religion.

The Music and Drama Club (MAD) — Began celebrating its 50th Anniversary in 2020 as well as hosting a robust theatrical season until mandatory telework:

- Produced the 2019 Fall Musical *The Drowsy Chaperone* with 11 performances over 3 weekends
- Gave annual Holiday Chorus with performances in the Building 3 auditorium, the Maryland Space Business Roundtable, 2 senior living facilities in the area, and donated to Children's Hospital
- Mounted its winter show, *Steel Magnolias*, with 6 performance over 2 weekends
- The production of *A Day in Hollywood/A Night in the Ukraine* planned to open in May but was cancelled due to COVID-19
- Released a video of the Summer Dance Project *Pretenders*



Club News and Contributions

Summer 2019-Winter 2020



The **Photo** Club enjoyed a robust Summer-Winter period with many contributions and offerings.

- **Celebrated Goddard's 60th Anniversary**
 - Worked with the city of Greenbelt to host a 6-week exhibit of photography by club members at the Greenbelt Arts Center (GAC). This exhibit commemorated Goddard's 60th anniversary and added an intriguing backdrop at the public reception to celebrating GAC's 40th season. See the [photos displayed](#) at the exhibit.
 - Photographed the 60th anniversary car show, featuring cars arranged to represent each year of Goddard's existence. [Car Show photos](#)
- **Special Events**
 - In November 2019, the club invited Goddard employees to its annual two-day Showcase and reception, featuring photographs by club members. In attendance were photographers trained as professional judges who critiqued the work on display. See the [Showcase](#) photos and view the photographers with their [displays](#).
 - Several club members displayed their photography around the state as part of Maryland Photography Alliance (MPA) exhibits.
- From May 2019 to early March 2020 Club members led 9 field trips offering various photographic subjects including nature, wildlife, architecture, aviation and fashion!
- Hosted educational events on photographing headshots and creating kaleidoscope images.
- Happy retirement to long-time club President Nancy Rosenbaum! Nancy was instrumental in creating the vibrant club Goddard has today. The club is thankful that the GEWA rules allow for her to remain active in the club.

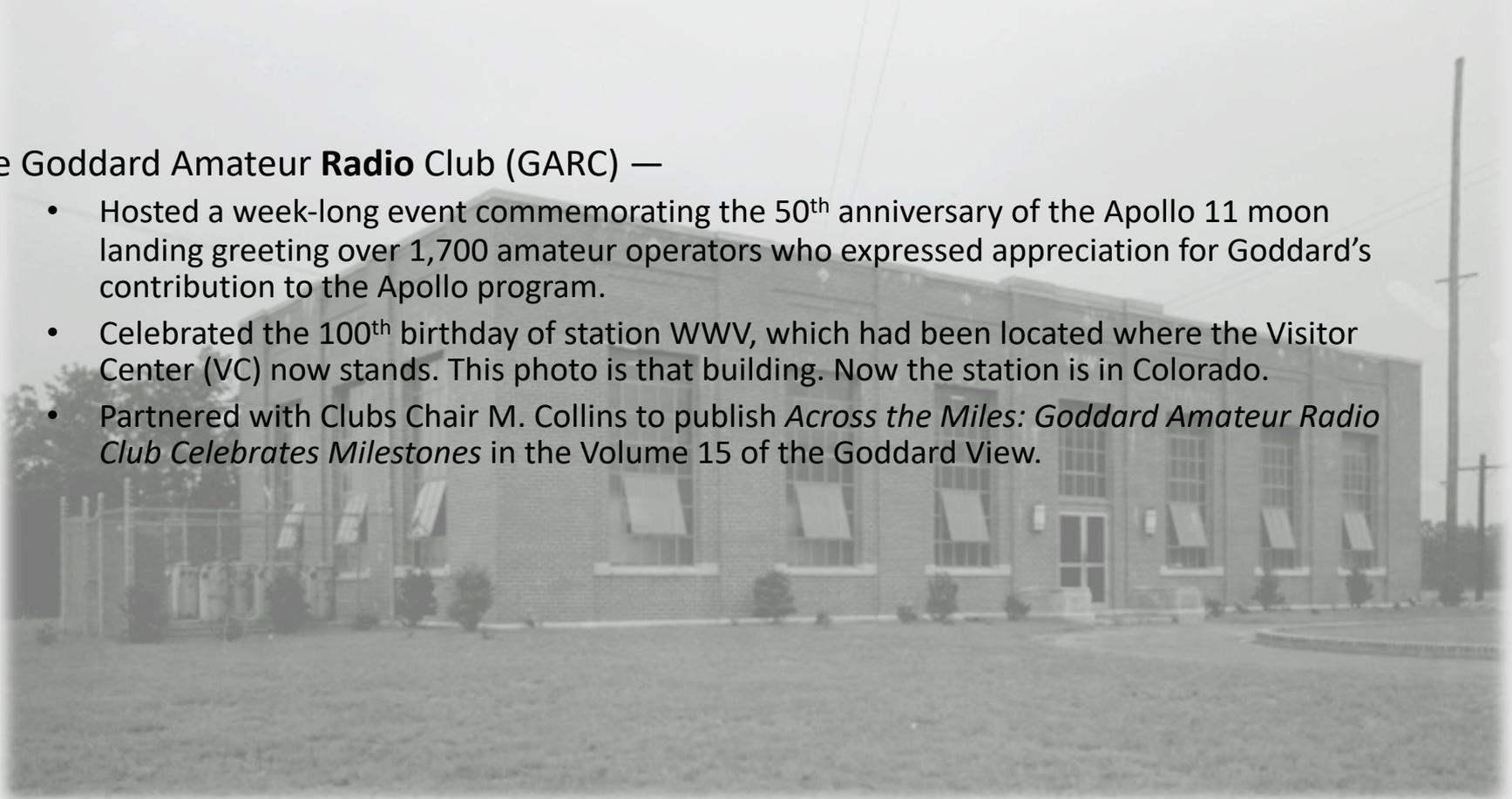
Club News and Contributions

Summer 2019-Winter 2020



The Goddard Amateur **Radio** Club (GARC) —

- Hosted a week-long event commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing greeting over 1,700 amateur operators who expressed appreciation for Goddard's contribution to the Apollo program.
- Celebrated the 100th birthday of station WWV, which had been located where the Visitor Center (VC) now stands. This photo is that building. Now the station is in Colorado.
- Partnered with Clubs Chair M. Collins to publish *Across the Miles: Goddard Amateur Radio Club Celebrates Milestones* in the Volume 15 of the Goddard View.



Club News and Contributions

Summer 2019-Winter 2020



Goddard **Retirees** and Alumni Association (GRAA) —

- 60th Anniversaries of Goddard, Vanguard, and Tracking and Data Systems commemorated
- Center Director, Chris Scolese, reviewed Goddard's achievements
- NASA Planetary Program Director, Lori Glaze, spoke about NASA's planetary mission plans
- Atmospheric Sciences Director, Steve Platnick, showed EOS accomplishments
- NOAA National Weather Service Director, Louis Uccellini, spoke of NWS heritage

Sailing Club — Hosted several exciting events.

- Dinner excursions to places such as Annapolis, the Eastern Shore, Galesville
- An overnight to Rock Hall
- A hugely successful trip to St. Martin
- The "Summer Sailstice" event

Ski Club hosted the following events and ski trips —

- Kick-Off Party for 2020 Ski Season held at Rec Center on September 13, 2019
- Killington Vermont – January 2-5, 2020
- Steamboat Colorado – January 25 – February 1, 2020. Total of 52 attendees from Goddard, Langley, Johnson, and Armstrong
- Mount Snow Vermont – February 23-28, 2020
- Davos Switzerland February 28 – March 7, 2020.

Club News and Contributions

Summer 2019-Winter 2020



Soccer Club —

- The new shed was installed at the north end of the field. It now houses the new mower which is working great!
- The Fall 2019 season was a success.
- The Spring 2020 season cancelled. No virtual events planned.



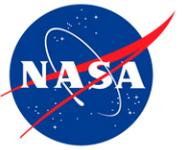
The Goddard Slow-Pitch **Softball** Association (GSPSA) —

- Initiated repairs to concrete walkway with the help of a GEWA grant.
- Completed unfinished length of the walkway by installing bricks donated as part of a fundraising effort.
- Installed a new section of the walkway designed to serve as a “Memory Walk” in honor of original teams when the club was established in 1965.
- The “Memory Walk” project was led by retiree Bob Lively, founding member and formerly employed in the Mission Operations Division supporting flight operations of earth-orbiting spacecraft.



Club News and Contributions

Summer 2019-Winter 2020



The **Stamp** Club received GEWA grant to replace the display case in Building 1.

The **Tae Kwon Do** Club — Celebrated many promotions as members improve their skills.

- Successful color belt exams and promotions: 3 brown, 2 blue, 1 green, 3 yellow with green stripes.
- Head instructor Asher Smith completed last 2 mid-terms to qualify for 4th degree black belt best test.



The **Zymurnauts** — Enjoyed good fellowship with their guests and other clubs at these events.

- 13th annual crab feast (aka “NASAcraBS”) in September at the Barney and Bea Recreation Center. This popular event averages 280 people including guests from the area and other clubs that donate food and one-of-kind crafted libations.
- 11th annual “Tasting Event” offering craft beer and food pairings and presentation by a guest profession brewer, sharing experiences and processes on brewing craft beer.
- Brewers Guild of Maryland that brings homebrew clubs together across the state.
- Fall brewery field trip, holiday party and monthly discussions.

Club News and Contributions

Spring 2020



Participants reported that the **Art of Living's** guided meditations on Teams have helped tremendously with mental health.

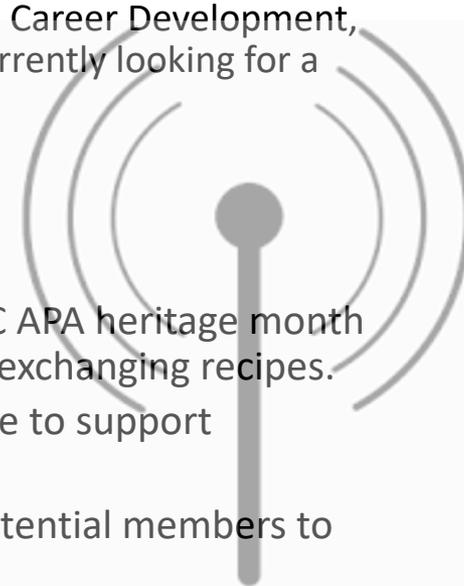
Association of Postdoctoral Scholars —

- Reformatted monthly networking events to virtual using Teams.
- Updated committee structure to include dedicated Advocacy, Mentoring, Career Development, and Social Activity leads, along with a dedicated LGBT+ liaison. We are currently looking for a Diversity and Equity lead.

Chinese American Club —

- Provide Virtual Tai Chi sessions
- Promoted and encouraged GCAC member participation in the APAAC APA heritage month events featuring presentation by Astronaut Jonny Kim and event for exchanging recipes.
- Forwarding information to members on programs from the D&I office to support employees during the mandatory telework period
- Initiated plan to host bi-weekly virtual tag-ups with members and potential members to share updates, news, and helpful tips.

The **Dance** Club hosted a virtual event “Summer Soiree Social” and has maintained contact with members online.



Club News and Contributions

Spring 2020



Music And Drama (**MAD**) –

- Released a public statement showing support for the Black Lives Matter movement.
- Hosted a Diversity Town Hall accompanied by Dan Krieger and Veronica Hill. This is the first in a series of events to address inclusion and equity in all aspects of the club such as leadership and decision making (show selection, audition promotion) and ultimately offering productions whose cast better represents Goddard's population.
- As part of releasing the dance video of *Pretenders*, MAD hosted a 2-part YouTube live premiere with live chat
- The cast of special 50th anniversary spring show *A Day in Hollywood/A Night in the Ukraine* participated in several virtual rehearsals before the show was cancelled.
- Announced the selection of next musical and director and set plans for virtual auditions.

Club News and Contributions

Spring 2020



The **Photo** Club offered the following virtual meetings and events.

- The meetings include speakers and featured photographers, and monthly Snap and Share sessions to share themed photographs. Club members stay connected by sharing their photography in a group album.
- Offered three-part Photo 101 course
- Held its first critique session with trained photography judges. Three Maryland photographers offered their talents at providing positive constructive criticism to the submitted photographs.

The following was intended for inclusion in the 2019 report.

The Photo club hosted renowned photographer Jon Carmichael, who gave a talk on his amazing capture of the 2017 total solar eclipse from the air. The talk was held in the Building 3 auditorium and was broadcast to all of Goddard, then featured in Goddard View. 2019 Volume 15 Issue 2 (April-June) of Goddard View.



The Goddard Amateur **Radio** Club (GARC)

- At the start of mandatory telework GARC operators began “*Stay In Touch*” sessions on their local repeater at noon each day. As many as 20 people joined to exchange health and wellness status, tips on finding scarce supplies, and general ham radio conversation.
- Began leading a virtual Amateur Radio license exam training class.

Club News and Contributions

Spring 2020



Goddard **Retirees** And Alumni Association (GRAA) newsletters serve as Goddard's primary link to retirees.

The **Sailing** Club began hosting virtual water lessons for beginners as well as Teams meetings to introduce people to the club and answer questions.



The **Stamp** Club

- Fielded requests to join the club upon Center re-opening.
- Began partnering with the Planning Branch of FMD to coordinate removal of existing display case and the installation of a new display case once Center reopens.
- Created concept Earth Day covers highlighting past NASA Earth Day posters as a set of 10. The limited number of sets will be cancelled with the April 22, 2020 date upon the reopening of the Center.

Issues



40 Years

The **Garden** Club lost an entire season. It only takes 1 year in this area to subject land to variety of weeds, unwanted plants, and invasive species. These plants will re-seed, so the problem will persist. In spite of their *best* efforts to gain access to the Center on the weekend in spring to work their plots, their request was quickly denied.

SCUBA Club

- You can't go diving virtually. Travel concerns have also prevented trip planning.
- No change with the air station. Neither the Center, GEWA, nor the club has the money to cover the high estimate.

Clubs by Category



Sports (competitive)

- Goddard Ultimate Frisbee Club
- Goddard Running and Orienteering club (GROC)
- Goddard Slow Pitch Softball Association (GSPSA)
- Soccer
- Table Tennis
- Tennis
- Volleyball

Arts and Hobbies

- Amateur Radio
- DIY Craft Club
- Photography
- Sportsman
- Stamp
- Zymurnauts

Physical and Spiritual Fitness

- Aerobic
- Art of Living
- Bible
- Dance
- Islamic Study Group
- Yoga

Cultural

- Chinese American
- Music And Drama

The Great Outdoors

- Archery
- Astronomy
- Flying
- Garden
- SCUBA
- Sailing
- Ski
- Sport Fishing

The Great Indoors Goddard Eurogaming Enthusiasts Klub (GEEK)

Other - category suggested by President(s)

- “Self-Defense” –
 - Cuong Nhu Karate
 - Tae Kwon Do
- “Education-Training” —
 - African Development and Technology
 - Association of Postdoctoral Scholars
 - Auto Tech
 - Goddard Retirees and Alumni Association
 - Toastmasters



Clubs Chronology – Year Established

- 1960 Flying – **60 yrs.**
- 1961 Astronomy
- 1962 Softball
- 1963 Archery
- 1966 Tennis
- 1967 Sportsman
- 1968 Tae Kwon Do
- 1969 Radio
- 1970 MAD – **50 yrs.**
- 1971 Ski
- 1971 Stamp
- 1972 Auto Tech
- 1972 Scuba
- 1972 Soccer
- 1972 Toastmaster
- 1976 GROC (Running)
- 1977 Dance
- 1978 GRAA (Retirees)
- 1980 Garden – **40 yrs.**
- 1981 Photo
- 1982 Bible
- 1985 Karate
- 1987 Chinese American
- 1990 “Frisbee” – **30 yrs.**
- 1993 Yoga
- 1995 Table Tennis
- 2000 African – **20 yrs.**
Development and Tech
- 2001 Art of Living
- 2004 Zymurnauts
- 2005 GEEK
- 2019 DIY Craft

Unsure of year established —

- Aerobic Fitness
- Association of Postdoctoral Scholars
- Islamic Study Group
- Sailing
- Sport Fishing
- Volleyball Mixed League



Clubs Presidents

- Aerobic Fitness:** Terri Hynson (VP), terri.l.hynson@nasa.gov
- African Development and Technology:** Hasani Martin, herman.n.martin@nasa.gov
- Archery:** Sherrod Ware, sherrod.o.ware@nasa.gov
- Art of Living:** Bill Hayden, william.l.hayden@nasa.gov
- Associate of Postdoctoral Scholars:** Tonia Venters, tonia.m.venters@nasa.gov
- Astronomy:** Emily Aldoretta, emily.aldoretta@nasa.gov
- Auto Tech:** Ken Blumestock, kenneth.a.blumenstock@nasa.gov
- Bible:** Paul Cleveland, paul.e.cleveland@nasa.gov
- Chinese American:** Minlin Chang, minlin.h.chang@nasa.gov
- Dance:** John Barker, barkers@earthlink.net
- DIY Craft:** Jadonna Berger, jadonna.a.berger@nasa.gov
- Flying:** Bruce Milam, malcolm.b.milam@nasa.gov
- Garden Club:** Mark Adrian, mark.l.adrian@nasa.gov
- Goddard Eurogaming Enthusiasts Klub:** Mark Beckman, mark.beckman@nasa.gov
- GROC (running):** Tom Winkert, thomas.k.winkert@nasa.gov
- Islamic Study Group:** Amidu Oloso, amidu.o.oloso@nasa.gov
- Karate, Cuong Nhu:** Jason Schwartz, jason.l.schwartz@nasa.gov
- Music And Drama:** Tiffany Hoerbelt, tiffany.l.heyd@nasa.gov
- Photography:** Kristin Rutkowski, kristin.l.rutkowski@nasa.gov
- Radio:** Thomas Capon, thomas.l.capon@nasa.gov
- Retirees And Alumni Assoc (GRAA):** Anthony Comberiate, abcomberiate@verizon.net



Clubs Presidents

Sailing: Tom Spitzer, thomas.j.spitzer@nasa.gov

SCUBA: Oren Sheinman and Scott Glubke (Co-Pres), oren.r.sheinman@nasa.gov scott.e.glubke@nasa.gov

Ski: Tom Johnson, Thomas.E.Johnson@nasa.gov

Softball Assoc: Jonathan Landis, jonathan.s.landis@nasa.gov

Soccer League: Marcello Rodriguez, marcello.rodriguez@nasa.gov

Sport Fishing: Bobby Patschke, robert.w.Patschke@nasa.gov

Sportsman: Mark Walter, mark.a.walter@nasa.gov

Stamp: Eugene Mszar, eugene.a.mszar@nasa.gov

Table Tennis: Roger Foltz, roger.foltz@nasa.gov

Tae Kwon Do: Asher Smith, asher.m.smith@nasa.gov

Tennis: Maria C. Lecha, maria.c.lecha@nasa.gov

Toastmasters: Mike Rilee, michael.l.rilee-1@nasa.gov

Ultimate Frisbee: Alan Kogut, alan.j.kogut@nasa.gov

Volleyball League, (Goddard Mixed): Russell Harrison, russell.e.harrison@nasa.gov

Yoga: Sharon Croft Cooper, sharon.cooper@nasa.gov

Zymurnauts: Kevin Schenk, kevin.m.schenk@nasa.gov



Acknowledgements

- Club Presidents and Officers for providing detailed information about their club
- Darrell Dela Rosa of Office of Communications for partnering on “*Across the Miles: Goddard Amateur Radio Club Celebrates Milestones*” article.
- Courtney Ritz for supporting the grants process.

Photos

- Cover (clockwise from top): Starting line at 2019 Fun Run; Waltzing at the Valentine’s Dance February 2020; Scene from “*The Drowsy Chaperone*” Fall 2019; Displaying holiday wreaths at DIY Craft event December 2019; Center: Employees at Photography Showcase (November 2019)
- Page 5: Posing with the astronauts at “*Fly Me to the Moon*” dance (July 2019)
- Page 6: Finishing artwork at DIY Craft events (2019)
- Page 7: Scene from “*Steel Magnolias*” February 2020
- Page 8: Exhibits at the Photography Club Showcase (November 2019)
- Page 9: Station WWV, located where the Visitor Center (VC) now stands. (circa 1919)
- Page 10: Reverie at Ski Club trip to Les Trois Vallées (2018)
- Page 11: Installing “Walk of Fame” in Area 100 (2019-2020)
- Page 12: Touring local brewery. (2018)

NOTE: Most photos are from events that occurred during the period covered by this report. However, if photos were not available, I used ones that represent events typical of that club or symbolic in some way.